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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SIKAI TELEA, No. C-10-2001 TEH (PR)
Petitioner,
v. ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
K. HARRINGTON, Warden,
Respondent.

_____/

Petitioner, a state prisoner incarcerated at Kern Valley State Prison in Corcoran, California, has filed a pro se Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 challenging a judgment of conviction from San Mateo County Superior Court. Doc. #1. He has paid the \$ 5.00 filing fee.

I

Petitioner was sentenced to life in state prison following his convictions by jury in San Mateo County Superior Court of multiple counts of murder, attempted murder and robbery. The California Court of Appeal affirmed the judgment in an unpublished

1 opinion. People v. Telea, No. A110926, 2008 WL 4997608 (Cal. Ct.
2 App. Nov. 28, 2008). On February 11, 2009, the California Supreme
3 Court denied review. Id. The instant federal Petition for a Writ
4 of Habeas Corpus followed. Doc. #1.

5

6 II

7 This Court may entertain a petition for a writ of habeas
8 corpus "in behalf of a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of
9 a State court only on the ground that he is in custody in violation
10 of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States." 28
11 U.S.C. § 2254(a). It shall "award the writ or issue an order
12 directing the respondent to show cause why the writ should not be
13 granted, unless it appears from the application that the applicant
14 or person detained is not entitled thereto." Id. § 2243.

15 Petitioner seeks federal habeas corpus relief by alleging
16 several claims, including: (1) the trial court violated his due
17 process rights by excluding various forms of evidence proffered by
18 the defense; (2) a violation of his right to remain silent under
19 Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U.S. 436 (1966) (Miranda); and (3) a
20 violation by the prosecutor of Petitioner's rights under Doyle v.
21 Ohio, 426 U.S. 610, 618-19 (1976) (it is fundamentally unfair and a
22 deprivation of due process to use post-Miranda silence against a
23 defendant at trial in view of the implicit assurance contained in
24 Miranda warnings that exercise of the right of silence will not be
25 penalized). Liberally construed, Petitioner's claims appear
26 cognizable under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 and merit an Answer from
27 Respondent. See Zichko v. Idaho, 247 F.3d 1015, 1020 (9th Cir.
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1 2001) (federal courts must construe pro se petitions for writs of
2 habeas corpus liberally).

3

4 III

5 For the foregoing reasons and for good cause shown,

6 1. The Clerk shall serve by certified mail a copy of
7 this Order and the Petition, and all attachments thereto, on
8 Respondent and Respondent's attorney, the Attorney General of the
9 State of California. The Clerk also shall serve a copy of this
10 Order on Petitioner.

11 2. Respondent shall file with the Court and serve on
12 Petitioner, within sixty (60) days of the issuance of this Order, an
13 Answer conforming in all respects to Rule 5 of the Rules Governing
14 Section 2254 Cases, showing cause why a writ of habeas corpus should
15 not be granted. Respondent shall file with the Answer and serve on
16 Petitioner a copy of all portions of the state trial record that
17 have been transcribed previously and that are relevant to a
18 determination of the issues presented by the Petition.

19 If Petitioner wishes to respond to the Answer, he shall do
20 so by filing a Traverse with the Court and serving it on Respondent
21 within thirty (30) days of his receipt of the Answer.

22 3. In lieu of an Answer, Respondent may file a Motion to
23 Dismiss on procedural grounds, as set forth in the Advisory
24 Committee Notes to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases.
25 If Respondent files such a motion, Petitioner shall file with the
26 Court and serve on Respondent an Opposition or Statement of
27 Non-Opposition within thirty (30) days of receipt of the motion, and

1 Respondent shall file with the Court and serve on Petitioner a Reply
2 within fifteen (15) days of receipt of any Opposition.

3 4. Petitioner is reminded that all communications with
4 the Court must be served on Respondent by mailing a true copy of the
5 document to Respondent's counsel. Petitioner also must keep the
6 Court and all parties informed of any change of address.

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9 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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11 DATED 06/14/10



12 THELTON E. HENDERSON
13 United States District Judge

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